



PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|------------|---|---------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| Applicant | : | Marco CAERAN |) | |
| Appln. No. | : | 09/537,176 |) | Group Art Unit 3728 |
| Filed | : | March 29, 2000 |) | Examiner Jila Mohandesi |
| For | : | SPORTS BOOT WITH FLEXIBLE FRAME |) | |

REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.111
TO THE OFFICE ACTION OF APRIL 5, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

In reply to the Office action dated April 5, 2002, please enter the following amendment.

Upon entry of the amendment, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

AMENDMENT

In the Claims

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

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1. (Three Times Amended) A sports boot, especially for gliding sports, comprising:
- an outer sole and an external upper covering a user's foot and lower leg, the external upper comprising a flexible frame made of a flexible, substantially non-stretchable material, arranged along determinate directions of forces transmitted during use of the boot, said